

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 ERDA-05 NRC-05 OES-03

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R 191724Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO ERDA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC 322

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ERDA PASS TO N. SIEVERING, AIA, R. ROBERTS, ANE; E. DELANEY,  
NRA

OECD PASS TO ARNOLD KRAMISH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: REMEMBER THE DRAGON

REF: (A) STATE 11295, (B) STATE 11652, (C) MCDONOUGH'S COMMERCIAL  
TELEX #0024 TO RUBIN

1. PER GUIDANCE IN REFTEL C, FRANK GOLDNER OF ERDA BRUSSELS ATTENDED  
JOINT DRAGON/DFA MEETING IN JULICH, GERMANY, ON JANUARY 14  
AND 15. DRS. RITTERHOUSE OF HNL IN TENNESSEE AND CAPRIOGLIO  
OF GENERAL ATOMICS IN SAN DIEGO, WHERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

2. THE MAIN DISCUSSION AT THE SUBJECT MEETING DEALT WITH  
EFFECTING FUNDING TO PERMIT OPERATION OF THE DRAGON PRO-  
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JECT MATERIALS PROGRAM THROUGH CY-76. THE TOTAL FUNDING REQUIRED

WAS ESTIMATED AS AROUND 330,000 BRITISH POUNDS. AT THE LAST MEETING ON THE PROGRAM, APPROXIMATELY 82,000 POUNDS WERE COMMITTED FOR CONTINUATION THROUGH MARCH 31, 1976 (REFTEL A). WITH U.S. FUNDING INCREASED FROM 45,000 U.S. DOLLARS FOR THREE MONTHS TO \$90,000 FOR SIX MONTHS (REFTEL B), AND KFA FUNDING INCREASED FROM 50,000 POUNDS TO 130,000 POUNDS, A GAP, TO THE TOTAL REQUIRED, OF 145,000 POUNDS REMAINED. KFA STATED THEY WOULD ATTEMPT TO EFFECT FURTHER A CONTRIBUTION OF 25,000 POUNDS, AND THE EC REPRESENTATIVE, MR. DEBACCI, INDICATED THAT HE THOUGH IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR AN ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION BY THE EC OF 100,000 BRITISH POUNDS. THEREFORE, IT APPEARS THAT CONTINUATION OF THE DRAGON MATERIALS PROGRAM PAST MARCH 31, 1976, HINGES ON THE ABILITY OF DEBACCI TO EFFECT EC FUNDING COMMITMENT BEFORE MARCH 1976.

3. IN ADDITION, U.K. MEMBERS AT THE SUBJECT MEETING INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT THE UKAEA WILL NOT PERMIT NON-UKAEA EMPLOYEES OF A DEFUNCT PROJECT TO REMAIN ON THE WINFRITH SITE. DEBACCI AGREED ALSO TO TAKE ACTION IN THIS AREA, PRIOR TO MARCH, AS WITHOUT A HOME THE PROJECT ALSO COULD NOT CONTINUE.

4. DR. GRAHAM OF THE DRAGON PROJECT INDICATED HE HAD INVESTIGATED THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVING MEMBERS OF THE PROJECT TO AN INDUSTRIAL SITE NEAR WINFRITH (JUST TO HAVE AN INTERIM HOME), BUT MEMBERS OF THE SUBJECT MEETING EXPRESSED THE FEELING THAT THERE MIGHT BE COMPLICATIONS IN RETAINING COMMITTED FUNDINGS FOR A NON-NATIONAL LABORATORY SITE.

5. THE POSSIBILITY OF USING KFA JULICH OR RCN PETTEN AS A HOME FOR PROJECT MEMBERS WAS DISCUSSED, BUT NOT FAVORABLY RESPONDED TO BY PROJECT MEMBERS DUE TO THE SHORT TIME INVOLVED FOR RESOLUTION.

6. IT WAS AGREED TO HOLD THE NEXT DRAGON PROJECT HIGH TEMPERATURE GAS REACTOR MATERIALS MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON MARCH 5, 1976.

7. COMMENT: IRRESPECTIVE OF WHAT OCCURS ON THE OVERALL DRAGON PROJECT, ERDA WILL ACHIEVE ITS STATED NEAR TERM GOALS OF PRESERVING AND COMPLETING EXPOSURE OF MATERIAL SAMPLES OF INTEREST IN THE OSLO FACILITY. THIS IS BECAUSE THE DRAGON PROJECT WILL SELL, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OR GIVE, THE OSLO CIIR TEST FACILITY TO CIIR BEFORE THE MARCH 31 EXPIRATION TIME, AND THE DIRECTOR OF CIIR STATED AT THE SUBJECT MEETING THAT THEY INTEND TO CONTINUE RUNNING THE FACILITY AS BEFORE.

8. THE GA REPRESENTATIVE AT THE MEETING INTENDS TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH CIIR ASSUMING THE ABOVE OCCURS.

9. THERE WAS SOME CRITICISM OF ERDA EXPRESSED AT THE SUBJECT MEETING  
(BY THE CHAIRMAN PROFESSOR NICKEL, IN A HEATED MOMENT) -  
IN THAT ONLY LIMITED FACILITY SUPPORT COULD BE COMMITTED  
TO AT THIS TIME RATHER THAN SOME COMMITMENT BASED ON A BROAD  
JOINT COOPERATIVE SPIRIT FOR SAVING THE OVERAL PROJECT. U.S.  
MEMBERS AT THE MEETING REITERATED PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS TO THE  
PROJECT THAT ERDA WAS STILL EVALUATING ITS LONG TERM HTGR RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS, AND THAT LACK OF FURTHER COMMITMENT AT  
THIS TIME SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TO INDICATED A LACK OF COOPERATION  
DESIRE, ORCONVERSELY DIFINITE SUPPORT.  
END COMMENT. GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**To:** ERDA  
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